Minutes
Committee Members Present
Provost Office
Jonathan Wickert, Ellen Rasmussen

1) Provost Academic Update
The College of Engineering Dean search is underway and the College of Business Dean search has been restarted. President Leath has introduced a pursuit funding initiative for interdisciplinary research which is focused on large scale research proposals ($10-$30M funding opportunities). Funds can be used for items such as grant consultants, release time, and workshops. It is intended for well-established research programs that are looking to move to the next level. Funds cannot be used for pilot studies or collecting initial data.

A number of RPA members expressed concern about the impact on faculty and the lack of faculty input on such an initiative. Members of the AAU Committee were involved in the development of the initiative. There was also some concern about the lack of support for seed funding. However, this is not the focus of this initiative.

Ellen Rasmussen presented the findings of the 20 year plan group (60 participants across the university) that focused on capital projects. The major priorities are:
   1) Biosciences
   2) Student Innovation Center
   3) Learning spaces
   4) Research spaces

There was some concern from committee members about the lack of support for research infrastructure. The Provost indicated that this issue is the responsibility of college Deans. Do we need a more comprehensive research strategy that considers seed funding, major grant efforts, and research infrastructure?

There was some discussion about the role of RPA in the budget review process given that there have been organizational changes. The provost indicated that this was our meeting and that we can invite other participants as we deemed necessary to get a better understanding of the budget.

2) Budget Memo #2
   a) Key performance indicators
There was some discussion about the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in terms of how they are defined and how they will be used. The Provost presented information on 8 goals set by the Board of Regents. The set of KPIs have not been finalized. When new funding sources become available, priority will be given to colleges based on the KPIs trend.